monitoring results of the Central Pollution Control Board, Yamuna river is polluted and does not meet the desired water quality criteria in its stretch from Delhi to Etawah.

(b) Other polluted river stretches according to water quality monitoring results presented in the said Atlas are Sabarmati at Ahmedabad, Gomti at Lucknow, the entire stretch of the river Kali, Adyar and Cooum, Vaigai at Madurai and Musi down stream of Hyderabad. Similarly river stretches of Ganga, down stream of Kanauj, Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi, and Trighat; Godavari, down stream Nasahik, Nanded and Rajmundary; Cauvery, down stream of Rangapattna, KRS Dam, Satyamangalam Bridge; Krishna between Mahabaleshwar and Sangli; Tapi between Nepanagar and Burhanpur; Mahanadi down stream of Cuttak, Mahi between Badnavar and Vasad, Brahamani down stream of Raurkela, Talcher and Dharmshala are also polluted.

(c) A scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) to take up pollution abatement works in 152 towns along the polluted stretches of 27 rivers spread over 16 States is under implmentation. The Plan, among others, includes all the above rivers/towns.

Ban on Bt cotton in developed countries

†3385. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is ban on commercial production of Bt cotton in several developed countries; and

(b) if so, the names of those countries and the reasons for the ban in those countries?

THE MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) (b) As per the information available no cotton growing country has banned Bt cotton in their country. Bt cotton is registered for cultivation in countries such as USA, Australia, Soutch Africa, Argentina, Mexico and Indonesia, after approval by the competent authorities.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.